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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/687,250	10/16/2003	Kulvir Singh Bhogal	AUS920030634US1	9391

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EXAMINER

TA, THO DAC

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2833

DATE MAILED: 07/20/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/687,250	BHO GAL ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Tho D. Ta	2833	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 20 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 and 11-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 16 October 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>10/16/03</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-5, 11, 13-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jones et al. (US 2004/0139354 A1) in view of Liao et al. (6,522,532) and Blum (4,647,726).

In regard to claims 1-5, 11, 13-18, Jones et al. discloses a computing device 12, comprising: network communication cable 34; wherein the network communication cable 34 provides a data communication link with a data network; wherein the network communication cable 34 includes an Ethernet cable having RJ45 connectors at each end of the Ethernet cable 34 (page 2, paragraph 0015).

However, Jones et al. does not disclose a first locking mechanism provided at a first end of the network communication cable 34; and a second locking mechanism provided at a second end of the network communication cable 34, the first locking mechanism is capable of locking the network communication cable 34 to a structure at the location, and the second locking mechanism is capable of locking the network communication cable 34 to the computing device 12.

Blum discloses a locking mechanism 24 provided at one end of the network communication cable 310 for preventing the unauthorized removal of the RJ45

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connector 18 from the socket 14; the locking mechanism 24 is capable of locking the network communication cable 310 to a structure 16 at the location 14; wherein the RJ45 connector 18 has a mating piece 20 for engaging with a locking feature 50 of the locking mechanism 24. Thus, providing a security system.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Jones et al. by constructing the locking mechanism as taught by Blum to each end of the cable in order to provide security to a network communication.

Further, Jones does not disclose that the network communication cable 34 having a cut-resistant casing.

Liao et al. discloses the network communication cable 36 having a cut-resistant casing.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to further modify Jones et al. by constructing the cable as taught by Liao et al. in order to provide extra security to a network communication.

3. Claims 1, 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jones et al. (US 2004/0139354 A1) in view of Liao et al. (6,522,532) and Marson et al. (4,911,646).

In regard to claims 1 and 12, Jones et al. discloses a computing device 12, comprising: network communication cable 34; wherein the network communication cable 34 provides a data communication link with a data network; wherein the network

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communication cable 34 includes an Ethernet cable having RJ45 connectors at each end of the Ethernet cable 34 (page 2, paragraph 0015).

However, Jones et al. does not disclose a first locking mechanism provided at a first end of the network communication cable 34; and a second locking mechanism provided at a second end of the network communication cable 34, the first locking mechanism is capable of locking the network communication cable 34 to a structure at the location, and the second locking mechanism is capable of locking the network communication cable 34 to the computing device 12.

Marson et al. discloses a locking mechanism in Fig. 7A provided at one end of the network communication cable 210 for preventing the unauthorized removal of the RJ45 connector from the socket 110; the locking mechanism is capable of locking the network communication cable 210 to a structure 112; wherein the locking mechanism includes integrated keyed 260.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Jones et al. by constructing the locking mechanism as taught by Marson et al. each end of the cable in order to provide security to a network communication.

Further, Jones does not disclose that the network communication cable 34 having a cut-resistant casing.

Liao et al. discloses the network communication cable 36 having a cut-resistant casing.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to further modify Jones et al. by constructing the cable as taught by Liao et al. in order to provide extra security to a network communication.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 6-10, 19 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

5. Claim 20 is allowed.

6. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: In regard to claims 6 and 19, the prior art fails to provide, teach or suggest the locking features and the mating pieces having openings through which a portion of a lock may be passed. In regard to claims 7, 8 and 20, the prior art fails to provide, teach or suggest the first locking mechanism and the second locking mechanism are locking sheaths. In regard to claims 9 and 10, the prior art fails to provide, teach or suggest the locking features are surfaces protruding from the locking mechanism wherein the surfaces form a slot into which the mating piece may be slid.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tho D. Ta whose telephone number is (571) 272-2014. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8:00-5:30).

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Paula A. Bradley can be reached on (571) 272-2800 ext 33. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



THO D. TA
PRIMARY EXAMINER

tdt
07/16/04